



South Park Bridge Closure Response Plan

Draft

June 9, 2010

Purpose

The purpose of the South Park Bridge Closure Response Plan (Closure Response Plan) is to identify and receive community input on measures to mitigate the impacts of King County's announced closure of the South Park Bridge on the South Park neighborhood and business community.

Overview

On June 30, 2010, King County will officially close the South Park Bridge to all forms of traffic due to safety concerns associated with its deteriorated condition. The South Park Bridge provides one of the transportation routes to the South Park neighborhood and is a major regional freight corridor that provides traffic access for an estimated 20,000 vehicles per day. That includes 2,800 truck trips per day to one of the largest industrial and shipyard complexes in Washington (Boeing Field, Port of Seattle, Duwamish waterfront, rail facilities, and the industrial areas of Kent and Auburn.)

In May 2010, Seattle Mayor Michael McGinn created the South Park Interdepartmental Team (South Park IDT) to identify short-term and long-term strategies that will lessen the impact of King County's scheduled closure of the South Park Bridge on the South Park neighborhood and business community. The overall goal of the South Park IDT was to identify and develop strategies that activate street life, make physical improvements to the area and bring people into South Park by:

- Providing transportation-related improvements to ease traffic congestion resulting from the bridge closure;
- Working with community and business leaders/groups to develop strategies that support neighborhood businesses and the overall community;
- Working with King County Metro on public transit re-routing plans to meet the needs of the South Park and Georgetown neighborhoods;
- Coordinating/enhancing the delivery of existing and new city services in the area; and
- Building on the past efforts identified in the South Park Action Agenda.

Context for South Park Bridge Closure Response Plan

The Closure Response Plan is the result of extensive work by departmental members of the South Park IDT to identify projects/responses to help mitigate the closure of the South Park Bridge. The Closure Response Plan also builds on the intensive community-driven neighborhood assessment and strategy that was developed as part of the South Park Action Agenda in 2006.

Past Investments in the South Park Community

The City of Seattle, working with the South Park community, has accomplished several projects within the community. These projects, guided by the South Park Action Agenda, have included:

Environmental Improvements

- Cesar Chavez Park
- Marra Farm Drainage Improvements
- Installation of Signage on Multiuse Trails
- Replacement of Light Fixtures throughout South Park

Physical Improvements

- South Park Library
- Expansion of South Park Library Lot
- LED Light Pilot Project

Community Engagement

- South Park Action Agenda Board
- South Park Information & Resource Center
- Market on Wheels

Youth Programming

- Expansion of South park Community Center Late Night Programming
- Sea Mar Boxing Club Funding
- Multiple Youth Projects

Transportation

- 14th Avenue South Improvements
- Safe Routes to Schools
- Traffic Signals
- New Bus Platforms – Kenyon Street
- Crosswalks – Restriping

In addition to the completed projects there are several projects that are planned in the South Park community that include:

- River City Skate Park
- Continuation of Safe Routes to Schools Program
- South park Pump Station and Drainage
- South Park Transfer Station

Summary of Draft Closure Response Items

As a result of the South Park IDT process, City departments identified a range of potential projects/responses to help mitigate the impact of the scheduled bridge closure. Examples include, but are not limited to:

Business Assistance

- One-on-One Outreach to South Park Businesses
- Marketing Plan to Promote South park as a Destination
- 14th Avenue South Street Beautification
- Provide Marketing and Consulting Services to South Park Restaurants
- Stage Events to Bring Customers into South Park Business District

Environmental Improvements

- Super 'Clean and Green'
- Street Sweeping
- "Too Good To Toss" Swap Meet
- Increased Marketing of Utility Assistance and Conservation Programs
- Special South Park Clean Up programs
- Implement Street Tree Planting in South Park Community

Transportation

- Increase 'LED' and Pedestrian Street Lighting in South Park
- Major Pothole Repair
- Install Neighborhood Identity Signs
- Revise Parking Restrictions on 14th Avenue South
- Improve Wayfinding Signage
- Access Need for Red Light Camera on 14th Avenue South & South Cloverdale Street

Public Safety

- Relocate Fire Department Ladder Truck
- Closely Monitor Speeding on Residential Streets
- Conduct Assessment of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design "CPTED" Program in South Park
- Increase Monitoring of 14th Avenue South Street End Activity

Community Engagement and Youth Opportunities

- Work with Community Groups to Access City Grant and Other Funding Opportunities
- Establish South Park Information and Resource Center in the Street End as Principal Outreach and Referral Center for South Park Community
- Increase Programming at the South park Library and South Park Community Center
- Bring Appropriate Community Center Events into the Street End (i.e. Boxing Club, 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament)
- Target Seattle Youth Employment Program to South Park Youth
- Increase Capacity of South Park Youth Development Programs to Serve South Park Youth

A complete list of ideas developed through the South Park IDT process is attached.

Item No.	Dept.	Proposed Project/Response	Category			
			Public Safety	Business Assistance	Community Engagement / Youth Opportunities	Resources Transportation
1	DPR	Re-direct appropriate programming to areas in the neighborhood commercial area		X	X	
2	OED / DON	Work with other City departments, ECOSS, South Park business and community leaders on comprehensive strategies/techniques to activate street life, make physical improvements to the area and bring people into South Park. Identified activities include, but are not limited to: inventorying businesses to determine needs; developing a neighborhood business marketing/promotion plan; connecting businesses with business support organizations for financial & technical assistance; developing a 14th Ave South facade improvement program; working with restaurants & various community events & festivals; and working with restaurants & Boeing to connect "lunch time" businesses on East side of bridge, etc.		X	X	
3	SCL	Provide permanent electrical power connection for community events at bridge end (14th / Dallas area)		X	X	
4	SDOT/DPR	Waive all fees for the purposes of street fairs and events		X	X	
5	DoIT	Work with OED & DON to assist businesses with online marketing & business expansion		X		
6	OED	Redirect existing contract with MIC & ECOSS to provide outreach services to individual businesses in SP community		X		
7	OED/DON	Determine interest in retail business association		X		
8	OED/DON	Conduct assessment of each South Park business prior to bridge closure to determine impact of closure, develop plan to connect business with OED's partners for technical assistance		X		
9	SDOT	Promote and encourage the use of SDOT funds including the Neighborhood Street Fund and the Neighborhood Projects Fund			X	X
10	DoIT	Work with DPR, ARC and other departments to enhance the use of South Park Community Center Tech Center for positive youth engagement, workforce training and community development.			X	
11	DoIT	Encourage community applications to the Technology Matching Fund			X	
12	DON	Work with community groups & neighborhood associations on securing available grant sources			X	

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			Public Safety	Business Assistance	Community Engagement / Youth Opportunities	Resources Transportation
13	DON	Review and update the South Park Action Agenda to identify which of the 162 recommendations in the South Park Action Plan could be implemented			X	
14	DON	Offer special referral service at the South Park Information & Resource Center			X	
15	DON	Targeted NMF for South Park			X	
16	DPD	Incentivize redevelopment through appropriate zoning changes			X	
17	DPR	Provide "fee waivers" on lease of South Park Community Center space.			X	
18	DPR	Increase programming at South Park Community Center			X	
19	DPR	World Cup soccer matches & movies projected on screen at street end Outreach to South Park community service providers (Community-Based Organizations) to determine expected and unexpected outcomes to bridge closure.			X	
20	HSD	Target Seattle Youth Employment Program to South Park youth			X	
21	HSD	Work with existing community service providers SeaMar, Consejo etc to ensure that service to the South Park community remains strong			X	
22	HSD	Increase the capacity of SP Youth Development programs to serve more youth and increase hours of operation. Youth Case Management, the Rec-Tech program at the community center and SP Boxing Club.			X	
23	HSD	Special South Park Employment & Education Program: Pilot project focusing on high growth sectors such as skilled trades. 10 young adults ages 18-24 in 2011.			X	
24	HSD	Using the Youth Arts, Civic Partners, smART Ventures, and City Artists programs, continue working with community partners to place arts in education programs at Concord, Denny & Chief Seattle, plus funding Arts Corp to offer out-of-school arts programs.			X	
25	OACA	Encourage artists and arts & cultural organizations to include South Park in their programming efforts, using the Neighborhood and Community Arts, smART Ventures, City Artists, Youth Arts and Civic Partners programs			X	
26	OACA				X	

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27	OACA	Provide South Park residents info about available funding opportunities in the Neighborhood and Community Arts, smART Ventures, City Artists and Youth Arts programs, including partnering with DoN and SPCC on existing projects			X	
28	OACA	Establish a Vibrant South Park Cultural Activation Program, making South Park a cultural destination featuring a lively main street activated by family-friendly art, music and cultural events that represent the diverse community groups that make South Park unique. Enliven the business district with art, preserve the rich cultural heritage of the neighborhood, activate the public areas with positive programs that engage youth and families, and draw people interested in discovering what South Park has to offer. Examples include cultural festivals, beat/gallery walks, temporary art installations/murals to beautify the bridge construction site, and other community-driven events.			X	
29	OCR	Partner with DON to provide technical assistance to the Information Center			X	
30	OCR	Organize community forums to inform & educate on civil rights issues			X	
31	OCR/DON /MO	Community leaders speakers' series			X	
32	OFE	Work with OFE, SYVPI and SWY&FS to encourage SP youth involvement in Initiative			X	
33	OFE	Consider potential to redirect Families & Education Levy dollars to South Park neighborhood			X	
34	OFE/MO	Target South Park in youth & families initiative programming			X	
35	SPL	Establish & maintain a kiosk/cart with information/documents, re: bridge closure			X	
36	SPL	Increase internet access stations with open lab times (classroom laptops)			X	
37	SPL	Use SPL as distribution point for promotional/informational pieces for community news, meetings and events.			X	

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38	SPL	Offer special programming at SP Branch Partner with SDOT to address accessibility issues for disabled South Park residents			X		
39	OCR	Assess lighting conditions on the impacted traffic routes					X
40	SCL	Expand LED lighting in the South Park community					X
41	SCL /	Work with SDOT on pedestrian and street lighting areas					X
42	SDOT	Major pothole repair prior to closure on So. Holden/5th Ave So./So. Kenyon					X
43	SDOT	Install channelization and signing associated with changes for closure					X
44	SDOT	Monitor and respond to traffic issues after closing, includes contingency funds for signing and striping.					X
45	SDOT	Implement Street Tree planting program in South Park					X
46	SDOT	Revise signal timing					X
47	SDOT	Install Neighborhood Identity Signs					X
48	SDOT	Street Sweeping of Arterials & Residential Streets					X
49	SDOT	Revise parking restrictions on 14 Ave S from S Henderson St to S Cloverdale St					X
50	SDOT	Install advance notification signs within the City limits					X
51	SDOT	Ladder 13 will be placed in service for 14 to 18 months beginning May 1 st . to mitigate the effects of the SDOT project on the Spokane Street Viaduct It will be housed at Station 11 in Highland Park. Funding for L13 will be paid by SDOT for the duration of the project. While Ladder 13 is in service, it will assist in the mitigation of the effects of the South Park Bridge closure. At the conclusion of the Spokane Street Viaduct project, the City will need to provide additional appropriation if Ladder 13 is to remain in service.					
52	SFD	SPD anticipates traffic to be less than concern; e.g., the 9-1-1 responders driving through heavier traffic, taking longer times in backing up calls between South and Southwest Precincts on opposite sides of the Duwamish or the need for SPD to enforce new traffic patterns with the re-routing of traffic due to the closure.	X				
53	SPD		X				

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54	SPD	Conduct assessment of SP neighborhood for implementation of activities to reduce crime using Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) techniques	X			
55	SPD / SFD	Participate with DPR and HSD on community events (i.e. Night Out and block watch parties)	X			
56	DPR/SPU/DON	"Super" Clean and Green event in the South Park neighborhood. Educate South Park community on conservation opportunities & programs				X
57	SCL	South Recycling and Disposal Station mitigation - Street sweeping along South Cloverdale Street and 5th Avenue South north of Cloverdale, beginning in June and continuing through 2012				X
58	SPU	Increased marketing of utility assistance programs for residential, multifamily and commercial properties, with special emphasis on ethnic businesses.				X
59	SPU	Provide assistance with starting food waste collection programs at multifamily properties.				X
60	SPU	Adopt-a-Street and Adopt-a-Drain targeted recruiting				X
61	SPU	Too-Good-To-Toss "swap meet" in South Park				X
62	SPU	Provide internet to non-profits in South Park				
63	DoIT	Provide web development support for city and community communications				
64	DoIT	Provide DPD project manager for permit activity in South Park				
65	DPD					

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City Dept.	
DoIT	Department of Information Technology
DON	Department of Neighborhoods
DPD	Department of Planning and Development
HSD	Human Services Department
OACA	Mayor's Office of Arts & Cultural Affairs
OFE	Office for Education
OED	Office of Economic Development
SCL	Seattle City Light
DPR	Department of Parks and Recreation
SOCR	Office of Civil Rights
SFD	Seattle Fire Department
SPD	Seattle Police Department
SPL	Seattle Public Library
SPU	Seattle Public Utilities